STANHOPE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

# Minutes: Regular Meeting October 13, 2016

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** at 8:00PM by Chairperson John Rogalo with flag salute.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE:** In compliance with the New Jersey Assembly Bill no. 1030, notice for this meeting was sent to the *New Jersey Herald* and the *Daily Record* on January 19, 2016 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on the same day.

ROLL CALL: Present: John Rogalo, Nicole Member, Michael Balogh

Jason Heymer, Owen Newson

Absent: Lorraine Bender

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

September 8, 2016 minutes were approved. Motion made by Mike Balogh and seconded by John Rogalo. Abstention: Jason Heymer (MC)

#### **OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

None

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Received:

9/26/16 Ellen Horak, clerk: 2017 Municipal Calendar

Sent: None

# **CURRENT ACTIVITY:**

# Memorial Park plantings:

EC will encumber \$400 from this year's budget to allow for payment in the Spring for Lakeside Park plantings. John will order plantings so receipt can be turned into Dana before the new fiscal year.

#### **New Trail focus:**

No movement

# **NJDOT: TAP Grants:**

The borough has already applied for this grant opportunity. Monies would go to the sidewalk completion project.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

### EC Facebook/Mike:

It was agreed that once a month the EC would provide information on environmental issues or EC activities for borough Facebook. Mike will send a link regarding recycling this month.

EC Tent purchase/Nicole: We will wait until Spring for purchase.

Furnace Pond Trails/DEP approval: No movement.

Jason reported that new trails were blazed down by factory at the end of the Canal Slip. He said a neighbor had told him that it was the Stanhope Environmental Commission. The Stanhope EC <u>did not</u> blaze the trails. It remains a mystery who did and why.

Mount Olive/Stanhope trail grant/allocation of monies: No movement LVRHS Go Green Club/Green Vision: Nicole reported that the Go Green Club again participated in the Clean Communities Day.

GROUP

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Dates for Municipal Calendar:** It was agreed that meeting times for EC in 2017 would remain the same. Also, for 2017, there will be only one clean-up. The clean-up will be in the Spring and a Trailblazing day, if possible, will be scheduled for the Fall.

John reported that the DOT is prepared to replace the old Waterloo Road bridge in the Spring. It will take approximately 9 months to replace. The bridge has been redesigned to allow a gas main to cross the river to bring natural gas to Stanhope. He noted that this construction will not only limit vehicles but also pedestrian traffic of the many Stanhope residents who walk daily to the cemetery. He stated that DOT will provide a temporary bridge for pedestrians if requested. He requested, and EC agreed, that we should notify Mayor and Council to officially request from DOT the placement of a temporary pedestrian bridge for Stanhope residents. Owen will write the letter.

Nicole stated she is currently investigating a new clean communities program to presented at Valley Road School.

Mike stated that he has spoken with teachers at Valley Road School regarding a possible program by our water consultant Mia Genovese. He will follow-up.

Mike also stated that he has spoken with the principal regarding the upcoming Environmental Congress. A program in which 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are eligible to participate. Principal and Science teacher are all for it but program attendance by students requires financial support. Mike will investigate if EC can't support students financially with Clean Communities monies.

**BILLS:** 

None

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# **LIAISON REPORTS:**

#### **Board of Health:**

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June 8th minutes were reviewed with no comment.

### Mayor and Council:

Lake Musconetcong Planning Board:

Land Use Board:

Musconetcong Foundrymen Historical Society:

# **Musconetcong Sewage Authority:**

John mentioned that water control measures at Lake Hopatcong can reduce water flow downstream at MSA and can hurt water quality. He recommends that Stanhope EC sign the petition that wants to limit these water control measures at Lake Hopatcong. EC agreed to sign the petition.

### **Recreation Commission:**

### **Shade Tree Commission:**

Jason stated that Sunnyside Nursery will design the plan for plantings for the embankment along Main Street on the remains of the Morris Canal.

#### Plaster Mill:

John stated that plans are being drawn-up by Mayor and Council to de-list the Plaster Mill as a National Historic Site. This is being done so measures may be taken to rehabilitate the site for use by the public. John wants a letter sent to Mayor and Council to show EC support. EC agreed. Owen will write letter.

# Water Quality:

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM. Motion by Jason Heymer and seconded by John Rogalo. (UC)

Respectfully submitted, Owen Newson, Secretary